

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-52. (Canceled).

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the determining and displaying are performed in a prioritized order.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 including when it is determined that the project cost information does not satisfy any of the thresholds, displaying the data value.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 wherein at least one of the graphical indicators is pre-defined.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the project cost information corresponds to an attribute of the project.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the thresholds and the graphical indicators are received via a user interface that provides pre-defined tests for use in a condition.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the thresholds and the graphical indicators are received via a user interface through which the user can specify whether the thresholds applies to summary or nonsummary data.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the summary data includes a project summary data.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58 wherein when a threshold applies to nonsummary data, receiving an indication as to whether the summary data inherits the same threshold.

61. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps according to claim 63.

62. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer implemented project information management system, the method comprising:

providing a project having summary tasks and ~~subtasks~~non-summary tasks, each summary task and non-summary task and ~~subtask~~ having a cost field with project cost information and each summary task including a plurality of non-summary tasks;

for each summary task and non-summary task and ~~subtask~~, receiving from a user a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field;

receiving from the user a summary under budget threshold, a summary under budget graphical indicator, a summary over budget threshold, and a summary over budget graphical indicator for summary data contained in the cost field; and

receiving from the user a non-summary under budget threshold, a non-summary under budget graphical indicator, a non-summary over budget threshold, and a non-summary over budget graphical indicator for non-summary data contained in the cost field, wherein the received thresholds and indicators can be different for each summary task and non-summary task and ~~subtask~~;

validating and storing the received thresholds, indicators, and display option;

processing the cost field for each summary task and non-summary task;

when processing the cost field for each summary task and non-summary task-and subtask,
determining whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the field;
if the display option indicates to display text data, displaying text data for the cost field;
if the display option indicates to display graphical indicators and the cost field contains summary data,
retrieving the stored summary under budget and summary over budget thresholds;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the summary under budget threshold;
if the project cost information is less than the under budget threshold, displaying the summary under budget graphical indicator;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the summary over budget;
if the project cost information threshold is greater than the summary over budget threshold, displaying the summary over budget indicator;
if the display option indicates to display graphical indicators and the cost field contains non-summary data,
retrieving the stored non-summary under budget and summary over budget thresholds;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the non-summary under budget threshold;
if the project cost information is less than the non-summary under budget threshold, displaying the non-summary under budget graphical indicator;

comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the non-summary over budget threshold; and
if the project cost information is greater than the non-summary over budget threshold, displaying the non-summary over budget indicator.

63. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer-implemented project information management system, the method comprising:

receiving a project having tasks, each task having a cost field;
receiving from a user a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field of a task;
receiving from a user an under budget threshold, a under budget graphical indicator, an over budget threshold, and an over budget graphical indicator for data contained in the cost field of the task, wherein the received thresholds and indicators can be different for each task;
processing the cost field for a task; and
when processing the cost field for a task,
determining whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the cost field of the task;
when the display option indicates to display text data, displaying text data for the cost field; and
when the display option indicates to display graphical indicators,
when the cost field is less than the under budget threshold, displaying the under budget graphical indicator; and
when the cost field is greater than the over budget threshold, displaying the over budget graphical indicator.

64. (Currently Amended) A project information management system, the system comprising:

- a component that receives a project having tasks, each task having a cost field;
- a component that for each task, stores a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field;
- a component that for each task with a display option indicating to display graphical indicators stores an under budget threshold, an under budget graphical indicator, an over budget threshold, and an over budget graphical indicator for the cost field of a task, wherein the received thresholds and indicators can be different for each task;
- a component that processes the cost field of a task, when processing the cost field for a task,
 - determines whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the cost field;
 - when the display option indicates to display text data, displays text data for the cost field; and
 - when the display option indicates to display graphical indicators,
 - retrieves the stored under budget and over budget thresholds;
 - compares the project cost information contained in the cost field with the under budget threshold;
 - when the project cost information is less than the under budget threshold, displays the under budget graphical indicator;
 - compares the project cost information contained in the cost field with the over budget threshold; and
 - when the project cost information is greater than the over budget threshold, displays the over budget graphical indicator.

65. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein the determining and displaying are performed in a prioritized order.

66. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein when processing the cost field for a task, if the component determines that the project cost information does not satisfy any of the thresholds, the component displays the data value.

67. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein at least one of the graphical indicators is pre-defined.

68. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein the project cost information corresponds to an attribute of the project.

69. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 further comprising a component that receives the thresholds and the graphical indicators via a user interface that provides pre-defined tests for use in a condition.

70. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 64 further comprising a component that receives the thresholds and the graphical indicators via a user interface through which the user can specify whether the thresholds applies to summary or nonsummary data.

71. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 70 wherein the summary data includes a project summary data.

72. (Previously Presented) The project information management system of claim 70 wherein when a threshold applies to nonsummary data, the component receives an indication as to whether the summary data inherits the same threshold.